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Web-Based Automated Mental Health Intake System For Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Services

Child & Adolescent Telepsychiatry services are in demand throughout the NARMC and frequently from other regions, as this mental health specialty is poorly resourced within both the military and civilian community. To perform a thorough psychiatric evaluation, detailed information from multiple sources is required, resulting in a lengthy, detailed, complex intake process. We sought to streamline the intake process by web enabling the intake forms, making them available for both VTC patient teleservices and traditional clinical service. Research funding provided the means to develop such a system and measure significant satisfaction criteria.

This web-based psychiatric intake assessment complies with military clinical information standards. In a new set of rules proposed on 1 August 2000, the General Services Administration encouraged federal agencies to move from paper forms to electronic records. This project assists the military in bringing medical information-gathering technologies into compliance with the Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA) of 1998, which requires government agencies to transfer all information electronically by October 2003. This system improves medical efficiency by:

- 1) Decreasing the time demands on both the parents/guardians and the providers.
- 2) Expanding the amount of time available to providers to see patients.

Web-based data collection can be applied throughout the military medical community. Advantages for parents/guardians include shorter appointments, shorter duty absences, and improved record transfer and access to quality assessments at distant sites where child psychiatry services are not available. Furthermore, the web-based psychiatric intake assessment complies with military clinical information standards.

Points of Contact

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